

simplify : first

MARK 12:28-44 (P. 709)

January 8, 2012

Message 1

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.*
Matthew 6:33

PRAY • LIFE IS COMPLICATED! • CONSIDER THE LIFE JESUS WANTS FOR YOU

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

**DOES THAT CHARACTERIZE YOUR LIFE? • SIMPLICITY = PRIORITY => A FRAMEWORK • FOUR THINGS
FOUR MESSAGES, CORE VALUES, THE HEART OF LCC • COMMITMENT SUNDAY • A BETTER LIFE
in this series:**

- We will cover the biblical reasons for our core values.
- We will explore how that value makes sense in our modern world.
- We will see what a commitment to that value looks like.

the first priority

Mark 12:28-44 (p. 709)

*The greatest command is to love the only God with all
you are and then to love others as yourself.*

**SUMMARY OF THE WHOLE OLD TESTAMENT, BUT IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, IT ISN'T SIMPLIFIED
TWO THINGS AMAZE ME: IGNORANCE & PRESUMPTION / WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

Core value 1: G O D comes f i r s t.

HINT: HE IS CLOSEST TO THE KINGDOM WHO PARAPHRASES JESUS!

God First Means: His Word is my Authority.

**ILL: I GET A LOT OF EMAIL, I AM GETTING RUTHLESS • FINAL RESORT? IGNORE THEM BY PRIORITY
THE VALUE OF THE PERSON DETERMINES THE VALUE OF THE WORD.**

Some Actions:

READ, STUDY, LISTEN, MEMORIZE, OBEY

God First Means: His Son is my Salvation.

**KEEP READING // UNDERSTANDING MARK'S GOSPEL // DAVID NEEDS A SAVIOR AND LORD
HAVE YOU EVER GIVEN YOUR LIFE TO JESUS? CONFESSED SIN? STOOD UP TO BE BAPTIZED?**

Some Actions:

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT, PUBLIC BAPTISM, CHANGED LIFE

God First Means: His Glory is my greatest Desire.

**KEEP READING • ILL: MY PRIDE DURING TOASTMASTER'S EVALUATION COMPETITION
HOW OFTEN DO WE WEIGH GOD'S GLORY AGAINST OUR OWN COMFORT?**

Some actions:

**THIS IS BOTH DIFFICULT (TO RELEASE AND TO STAND UP) BUT LIBERATING TOO
NOW FINISH READING**

God First Means:

He gets the first of my every o p p o r t u n i t y.

**WHY WOULD SHE? THE MONEY IS NO GOOD TO HER? -- TOTAL TRUST IN GOD
10% IS HARD TO COMPUTE? • THE END RESULT IS THE SAME GOD GETS THE OPPORTUNITY**

Some actions:

HE MUST BE FIRST IN MY MONEY. IF MY COMFORT... BUT IF GOD'S GLORY...

preparing for commitment sunday

SALVATION? BAPTISM? STARTING POINT? THE ELEMENTS

The Air Commitment

***In every aspect of my life, God comes first. His Word is my only
authority. His Son is my only Salvation. His glory is my greatest desire. I
give him the first of my every opportunity.
(Matt 22:37-38 :: Gen 2:7 :: Acts 17:28-31)***

*Specifically, I have given my life over to Jesus as my Savior and Lord, I have followed
him in the waters of baptism. I will submit my life to the mandates of the Bible, stand
up for God's honor, and invest the first portion of my time, talent and treasures in the
work of his Kingdom.*